

61  
Appl. No. 09/819,992  
Status Letter dated December 11, 2003



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DEC 17 2003  
TC 1700

1761

Application No. : 09/819,992  
Applicant : Guraya, Harmeet

Customer No.: 25295

Filed : March 29, 2001  
Docket No. : D.N. 0236.97

Group Art Unit: 1761  
Examiner: Anthony Weier

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

### STATUS INQUIRY LETTER

Sir:

A first office action for the above-identified application was mailed October 24, 2002 as Paper No. 5. Applicant filed a response on April 21, 2003; See Attachment A, "Correspondence Receipt Card" stamped April 23, 2003 by the PTO. To date, no further communications involving the above-identified application have been received from the Office. Please inform us of the status of the above-identified application, including when a final office action from the Office can be expected.

When our inventor, Dr. Guraya, called our office (Office of Technology Transfer, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture) on December 10, 2003 to inquire to about the status of the case, I telephoned the Office immediately. I was informed by a Customer Service Representative that an Office Action was mailed July 16, 2003. However, after receiving the stamped Correspondence Receipt Card described above, our office has not received any further communication from the Office with regards to this case. Because I was concerned about receiving a copy of the office action that had been sent and about getting the clock reset, Customer Service suggested that I telephone the Examiner. However, the Customer Service Representative related that the Art Unit was in the middle of a move, that the Examiners had already moved to the new PTO facility,

and that since the case was in central files in Crystal City and the Examiner was in the new facility, it was not clear how the situation could be resolved. The Customer Service Representative suggested that the Examiner may have access electronically to the file, in which case, the Examiner could be able to send me a new office action, resetting the clock. I telephoned Examiner Weier and explained the situation to him and what I had learned from Customer Service. Examiner Weier stated that he had indeed sent a final office action on July 16, 2003. He further related that however he was in the midst of a move to the new facility, that unfortunately he did not have access to the case electronically, and therefore did not have access to the case at this time.

I am writing this letter documenting the above events hoping to expedite a resolution to this situation. Based on the above telephonic communications, I am specifically requesting that the Office Action be remailed with a new mailing date, thus changing the response due date, thereby resetting the clock.

If there are any questions that I can answer to resolve this issue, please telephone the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

December 11, 2003  
Date

Evelyn M. Rabin  
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\* I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States \*  
\* Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF \*  
\* Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on \*  
\* December 11, 2003 . \*

\* (Date) \*

\* Robin McCormick \*

\* (Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative) \*

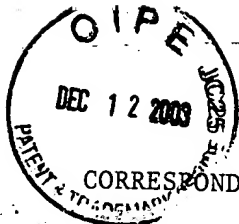
\* Robin A. McCormick \*

(Signature)

12/11/03

(Date)

\*\*\*\*\*



Attachment A

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TITLE: Process for the Deagglomeration and the Homogeneous Dispersion of Starch Particles

INVENTOR(S): Harmeet S. Guraya

D.N.: 0236.97 S.N.: 09/819,992 Filed: 3/29/01

[X] Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time  
[X] Correspondence Receipt Card

